(c) Does not arise. The ambient air in respect of Sulpher-dioxide and other pollutants, as well as the meteriological data around the Taj Mahal is continuously being monitored and remedial measures are undertaken as required.

Impact of Sino-Soviet rela/tions on the Indian-sub continent

1852. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHAND RAKANT BHANDARE;
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state.

(a) whether the President of China and USSR pledged to re-establish relations on the basis of Panchsheel and mutual coexistence during the latter's visit to China iu the middle of May;

(b) if so, what according to Government's information, have been the development in Sino-Soviet relations following the said visit; and

(c) what is Government's assessment about the impact thereof on the establishment of peace in the Indian Sub-Continent?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRs (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) to (c) During the visit of Soviet President Gorbachev to China from May 15-18, 1989, it was stated that the People's Republic of China and the USSR would develop their relations oa the basis of the universal principles guiding State to State relations. The two sides agreed that the visit symbolised normalisation of relations between the two countries. Both sides considered it important to have contacts and dialogues between the leaders of the two countries. Recently, Chinese Vice Premier Tian Jiyun visited the Soviet Union in connection with a meeting of the Sino-Soviet Joint Economic Commission.

Government welcome the normalization of Sino-Soviet relations and hope that this process will contribute to peace and stability in Asia and the world.

Repatriation of Indian Nationals from Singapore

1853. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHAND-RAKANT BHANDARE;
SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 77 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 19th July, 1989 and state;

(a) the number of Indian Nationals' who had over-stayed in Singapore, as on April 1, 1989, and the reasons for their over-stay according to Government's information; and

(b) how many of them have since been repatriated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH); (a) According to available information, there were 1840 Indian overstayers in Singapore on April 1, 1989. The primary reason for overstay of these Indian nationals was that they had illegally secured jobs.

(b) 1806 Indian nationals have been repatriated to India since,April 1, 1989.

Proposal to convert Madurai metre gauge division into broad-gauge division

1854. SHRI PASUMPONTHA KIRUTTINAN; SHRi V. GOPALSAMY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state;

(a) how many metre-gauge divisions are functioning in the country; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to convert Madurai metre-gauge division in Tamil Nadu into brop.d-gauge Railway division?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Seven divisions having exclusively Metre Gauge lines and nineteen divisions having both.